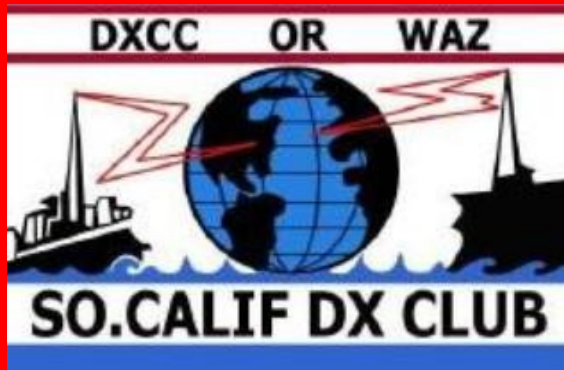




63 Years of DX-cellence



April 2011

BULLetin

The Southern California DX Club

"If you need him get in there and work him"

The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The SCDXC strongly supports the DX Code of Conduct. Please visit their website:

www.dx-code.org

The newsletter is published every month and is released to its members about the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

Articles may be republished with the recognition of the author and the club. Reuse of copyrighted materials require the original author's permission.

Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the editor, Bill:

n6rv@scdxc.org

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and December.

Please check the club web site for events and details at:

<http://www.scdxc.org>

If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater:

W6AM/R145.48,(-) 100Hz PL



NO APRIL MEETING PARTY IN VISALIA!

First Club Member Reporting #1 Honor Roll! Will Angenent, K6ND! Way To Go Will!

• #9 FT5Z Amsterdam &
#10 FT5/J/E Juan De Nova / Europa
The Last two of the 2009 West Coast 10 Most Wanted

• 2010 West Coast 10 Most Wanted
Here we go again! ... At least two changed from last year!

• We Immediately Need
Editor / Publisher
Reporters
Articles & Interesting Tidbits

Making friends all over the world using the magic of Amateur Radio.
Sponsors of the International DX Convention, since 1949

SCDXC Annual Picnic

Sunday June 12, 2011 at 11:00am



The SCDXC Picnic will be held Sunday, June 12, at Woodley Park, Grove 1, in Van Nuys. The club provides hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, drinks, and paper goods. Bring a side dish and your appetite! Talk in on W6AM/R 145.480Mhz PL 100.00hz.

We will have our special raffle board for a chance at a Yaesu FT-450D! The spots will be \$10.00 each. Square sales start at the March meeting.

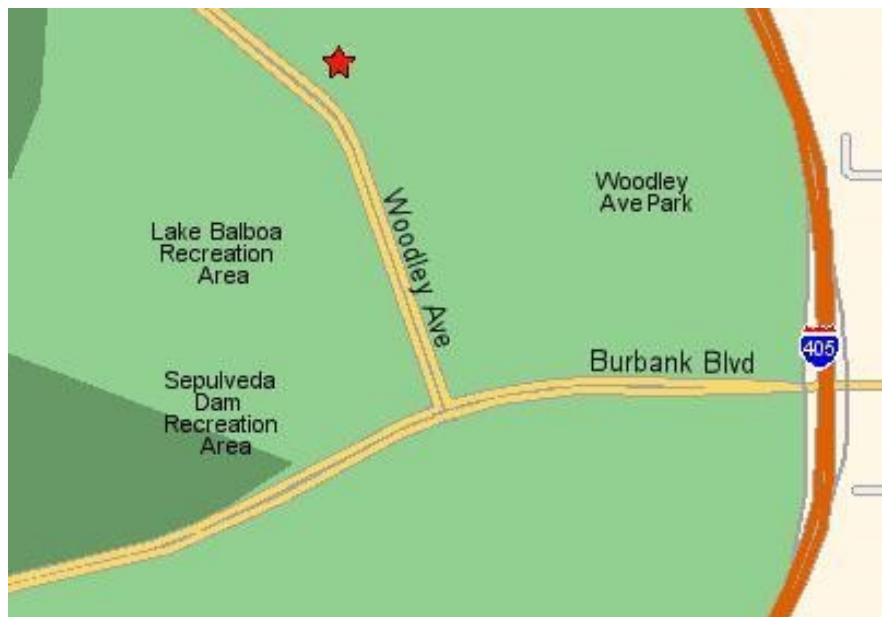


<http://www.yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm?cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=102&encProdID=870B3CA7CFCB61E6A599B0EFEA2217E4&DivisionID=65&isArchived=0>

From the south exit the 405 freeway at Burbank, this is the first exit past the 101 Fwy. Turn left (West) onto Burbank travel about 3/4 of a mile to Woodley Ave. Turn Right at the stop light and go north about 3/4 of a mile. The entrance to the picnic area and parking lot will be on the right (East) side and is just north of the entrance to the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant.

From the north exit the 405 Freeway at Burbank, Turn right (West) onto Burbank travel about 3/4 of a mile to Woodley Ave. Turn Right at the stop light and go north about 3/4 of a mile. The entrance to the picnic area and parking lot will be on the right (East) side and is just north of the entrance to the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant.

See you there!



THE PREZ SEZ
John Schroeder, N6QQ,
President – Southern California DX Club
n6qq@scdxc.org

Hello Everybody!

We had a good turnout for the March meeting. Learning about what happen in Haiti was an eye opener.

I just finished working a few of the YL's in PJ2 land. PJ2/N6UWW, PJ2/AF6WF, PJ2/K6GO, PJ2/NA6YL and PJ2/KG6TBR. I missed a few because they were on 10 meters. I had no opening into PJ2 land on 10.

I am ready for my drive to Visalia. I am looking forward to all the action. If you come across a new idea that we could use in planning for Visalia 2012 - please drop me a note.

Contests for April:

JIDX CW Contest - April 2-3 (I still have 95 cities left to work in JA land)

SP DX RTTY Contest - April 23-24

10-10 International Digital Contest - April 23-24 - (mostly PSK around 28.120 area, with some RTTY)

See you in Visalia

73, John N6QQ President, SCDXC



Treasurer's Report

Club financial information is available on request. Contact the treasurer.

Officer Guidelines

The revised version of the Officers Guidelines is available on our website. See the hyperlink below.

Code of Conduct

SCDXC endorses the the **DX Code of Conduct**
See the hyperlink below.



VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bill Kendrick, N6RV,
Vice President Editor – SCDXC
n6rv@scdxc.org

On To Visalia!

Hello Fellow DXers!

Visalia Here We Come! Well it is that time of year. Is everyone excited to get out of smogville for a few days and enjoy the pastoral environment? OK ... so it is more like a desert in the central valley but at least it is not like hanging around here! Remember there is no meeting in April only Visalia! Beckie and I are really looking forward to sitting around at the bar and hanging out with all of you. Do not forget Bubbas! Have you looked at the prizes. There are two amplifiers and at least 10 radios in the mix! Now that is a serious pile of stuff. You know we are going to out do them next year!

Kudos to the ladies operating from Curacao. We heard them on several bands and they were passing out points in the Russian contest. Maybe they will make it a regular thing. We could talk them into going to Juan De Nova or Europa. We are at the end of the top ten West Coast Most Wanted countries series and that means we are looking for noble individuals to take on an article or two. As you can see this months Spurious Outputs are up and that is a good thing. Likewise if you are listening on the bands activity is on the increase as is the solar flux. Both are good things. By next fall we will be in the thick of it with DX galore!

If you look to the right you will see that the new member sidebar has been updated. If you per chance encounter one of our new members at Visalia be sure to greet them and introduce them to your group. Make it a great experience for everyone!

Check out the Rumors Around The Band page. There's a whole lot of shakin' goin' on baby! Talking about shaking the Japan earthquake was a huge! Most Japanese members reported in with thumbs up on health and welfare. Our thoughts are with them.

73, de N6RV Vice President SCDXC

March Prize Winners

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| 1) HP 20" Monitor | K6QU |
| 2) Nikon Camera | AG6E |
| 3) Canon Ink Jet Printer | K2IXQ |
| 4) Brothers Label Maker | NQ6L |
| 5) Webcam + Bulbs | W6IRD |
| 6) Paper + Label Maker | W6HB |
| 7) Cordless Screwdriver | K6OGO |
| 8) USB Drive + Paper + | N6RV YL |
| 9) Multimeter + Tool Kit | N6HY |
| 10) Paper + Optical Mouse + | K6YUI |
| 11) 160 DXing Book + Bulbs | N6RV |
| 12) Hex Drivers + Bulbs | N6VNI |
| 13) Hobby Vice + | KC6TOD |

Another bunch of great prizes were raffled off this month. We are still burning off the pile of stuff John, N6QQ, brought he had left over from last year. If you have something you would like to see in selection at one of the future meetings let me know!

... ..

DXer of The Year

Congratulations
Ernie N6HY!

Clipperton Award

Congratulations
Rich AE6RS!

New Members

Please welcome new members:

Ron Resnick
W2DXX

Paul Gussow
W6GMU

Peter Arninge
SM5GMZ

Jerry Lewine
K6QU

Gabriel Calfas
K6AWB

Peter Narins
K2IXQ

Gene Brewer
W5DQ

Rick Crosmer
W6ENZ

Linda Souder
KD6HYN

Roger Merideth
K6GVO

Rob Reichman
WA3IHV

Lloyd Hendrickson
K6NQY

Arnold Schwartz
WB6PJC

Stan Thornton
K16QM

David Lopez
N6RI

Stan Thornton
W6SMT

Mark Willardson
N6OUZ

Barry Fitchew
N6VOH

Mary Gray
KH6VZ

Timothy Coker
N6WIN

Make sure you meet and greet them at the next meeting!

New DXer Resources

New DXers Handbook

http://www.udxa.org/attachments/148_New_DXers_Handbook.pdf

RUMORS ON THE BAND

A plethora of announcements, rumors, and serious DX fun

The Big DXpeditions for this month are **Albania**, **Nepal**, & **St. Barthelemy**. Notice that there are several DXpeditions going on in this month. Expect greater activity as the solar cycle progresses!

T31A - Central Kiribati

It seems a few of our club members have opted to go to Kiribati in lieu of the Visalia International DX Convention. Look for John, N7CQQ, Charlie, W6KK, & Arnie, N6HC on the bands the week after the convention.

T6PSE - Afghanistan

Remember the Afghanistan DXpedition is on track for some time in May. Keep a close eye out for this team. Hopefully with good conditions we will catch them on several bands.

7O - Yemen

Apparently the website posted in last month's issue was old. The DXpedition apparently has been in planning since 2008.

ST0 (?) - Southern Sudan (?)

As you know the new government of Southern Sudan is being formed. EA5RM has obtained permission for the first license to operate as soon as the country comes into existence. He will be in Jubba on July 9. Keep a close eye on this new entity!

Useful DX Sites

N0HR DXpedition Map
www.n0hr.com/wk34/

The DX Zone
www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/

The Daily DX
www.dailydx.com/

Announced DX Ops
www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html

DXing.info
[/www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/](http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/)

DX 425 News
www.425dxn.org/dxped/

Dx-info.de
www.dx-info.de

DX Italia DX News
www.marioi2mcp.it

DH9SB Weekly DX Calendar
<http://www.dx-info.de>

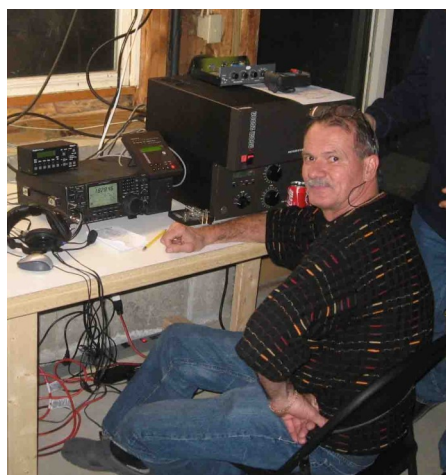
Blue Information indicate particularly rare entities and **Red information** indicate SCDXC member attended DXpedition. As always you have to turn on your radio to work them.

Call	QTH	Start Date	End Date	Information	Website
9L5MS	Sierra Leone	Now	4/4/2011	PA3A PD0CAV PA8AD PA3AN; 160-10m;	http://www.sierraleone2011.com/sl_2011/
JW	Svalbard	Now	4/8/2011	JW/F8DVD	-
5X1NH	Uganda	Now	4/14/2011	G3RWF, 80-10 CW, SSB, RTTY	-
EL	Liberia	Now	4/13/2011	I2YSB, IK2CIO, IK2CKR, IK2DIA, IK2HKT, HF +	http://www.i2ysb.com/joomla5/
FK	Corsica	Now	4/17/2011	FK/F8DZY, 80-10 CW, SSB, RTTY	-
9L5MS	Sierra Leone	Now	4/18/2011	PA3A, PD0CAV, PA8AD, PA3AN, EL2DT, HF + 6m, RTTY SSB CW	http://www.sierraleone2011.com/sl_2011/home.php
YA	Afghanistan	Now	5/30/2011	KD5NOI (T6JC) & K5TLL (T6TL) 40-10 SSB &	-
ZD9	Gough Island	Now	9/1/2011	ZS1LF	-
YI	Iraq	Now		KB2RLB (YI1RLB), KG4GYS (YI4GYS)	-
ZA	Albania	4/2/2011	4/16/2011	ZA/F4DTO	http://f4dto.monsite-orange.fr/
P29NI	Papua New	4/8/2011	4/14/2011	SM6CVX, G3KHZ, CT1AGF, G3JKX, G3UKV	http://p29ni.weebly.com/
TO2Z	Reunion Island	4/9/2011	4/22/2011	F4FLF, SSB, CW, RTTY	-
9N7DX	Nepal	4/13/2011	5/1/2011	4Z4DX, 20, 15, 10, 6m, CW, RTTY, PSK31	http://www.mdxc.org/9n7dx/
A25FC	Botswana	4/14/2011	4/18/2011	ON4AEO & Friends, 160-10m, SSB, CW, RTTY,	http://www.filipstattooshop.be/botswana/
FJ	St. Barthelemy	4/15/2011	4/27/2011	OH2YL	http://www.fjoh2vl.com/
5V7CC	Togo	4/15/2011	4/28/2011	DL9MBI, DL3MBG, DL5MGH, DL5MEV, 160-10m,	-
T31A	Central Kiribati	4/17/2011	4/28/2011	W2IJ Team (SCDXC: W6KK, N6HC, N7CQQ) 160-10m, SSB, CW, RTTY	http://www.t31a.com/
TO2FH	Mayotte	4/18/2011	4/25/2011	PT9ZE, PY2PT, PY2TNT, PY2WAS, PY4BZ; 160- JA1JQY(A52JY), JA1KJW (A52KJ), JA8VE (A52VE), 160-6m, RTTY, SSB, CW	-
A52	Bhutan	4/19/2011	4/26/2011		-
9G5LK	Ghana	4/28/2011	5/6/2011	PE1KL, PA2LS, 80-10m, SSB, PSK31, RTTY	http://www.pe1kl-pa2ls.com/
T6PSE	Afghanistan	5/1/2011	5/31/2011	N6PSE, K3LP, YT1AD, K1LZ, WO1S, YI1UNH, AH6HY, W0UCE, W5KDJ, 10 days in May	http://www.intrepid-dx.com/t6pse/index.php

DX ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrate the Successes of Our Fellow Members!

The Honor Roll is Now 340!



If you look at the standings we have only one member who has reported all the PJs confirmed and is at the top of the Honor Roll! That is **Will Angenent, K6ND!** **WAY TO GO Will!**

That knocks the rest of us off of the stoop until the standings are forwarded to me, the editor, and Jim, N6DHz, for web update.

Remember to Send in Your Updated Standings

Please look over the lists and update your standings and email them to the address below! We do not want to miss celebrating your accomplishments!

SCDXC WAZ and DXCC Standings (N6RV)

The first of the two large numbers represent the number of confirmed zones on the 9 HF bands 160 -10 (less 60 meters). The next column contain the following codes:

M **Mixed**
P **Phone**
C **CW**
R **RTTY**
5 **5 Band**

If you have any information to post please email me:

N6RV@SCDXC.ORG

For Sale

Ten Tec Titan 425 amplifier in excellent condition by a non smoking user. It easily puts out full legal power on all HF bands, including 17 and 12m. A good feature of this amplifier is its separate power supply, making the RF deck easy to handle. Also included is one spare 3CX800A7 tube. All three tubes were just hi-pot checked by RF Parts and are in good condition. I have two spare amplifiers and a spare for the spares, so don't need to keep this one. I'm not interested in shipping, so prefer pick up only. If necessary I can deliver within 30 miles of Encinitas. Price \$2000. Please call me at (760) 822-7709 if interested. Jim McCook, W6YA

WAZ STANDINGS

	<u>9B / 5B</u>	<u>Awards</u>
EU7SA	355 / 200	M/5
N6AW	355 / 200	M/P/C/5
WA5VGI	352 / 200	M/P/C/5
W6VX	352 / 199	
K6FG	345 / 196	M/P/C/R/5
W6SR	342 / 200	M/P/C//5
W8DX	339 / 200	M/5
K6YUI	337 / 200	M/P/C/R/5
W6YOO	303 / 200	M/P/C/5
K6YRA	280 / 200	P/5
KC6X	278 / 200	M/C/5
N6RV	268 / 183	M/P/C
K6LD	271 / 172	M/P
KR6C	264 / 166	M/C
KJ6Y	261 / 172	
WD6L	248 / 200	M/P/5
K6SY	246 / 173	P
K6GXO	227 / 193	M
AD6KQ	226 / 164	
N6OU	220 / 200	M/5
N6DHz	214 / 160	P
KH6DX/m	210 / 184	
NS6C	/ 198	
N6MXU	155 / 193	
K2PLF	191 / 191	
K6KII	191 / 177	M
W6IRD	181 / 147	M/P
W6NRQ	180 / 147	M/P
K6IRD	154 / 126	M/P
WA6BOB	152 / 136	M
K6IRA	118 / 102	
W3SE	102 / 112	
K6VC	96 / 96	P
W6EA	92 / 86	
N6VNI	86 / 64	
KA6TTV	82 / 67	
N6UC	78 / 78	M
N6GIL	49 / 43	
W6DCK	40 / 40	P
WB6PSY	40 / 40	P
K6JW	40 / 40	M/P
KT6LA	40 / 40	
K6YR	39 / 39	
NZ6L	36 / 36	
N6HE	35 / 35	
W4EF	29 /	
N6AWD		M
N6HC		M/P/C
KB6KTV		P
W6OES		M
K8RD		C
K6UNR	/ 200	M/P/5

DXCC STANDINGS

	<u>TOT / CUR</u>
K6KII	382 / 338
JA1BK	377 / 338
K6YRA	372 / 338
K6EXO	370 / 338
N6UC	365 / 338
K6YUI	360 / 338
NS6C	355 / 338
N6AW	355 / 337
W6HT	358 / 338
W6SR	353 / 338
K6IPV	353 / 334
N6RV	352 / 340
WA6WZO	352 / 338
K8RD	351 / 338
K6FG	351 / 338
K5KT	350 / 338
K6GXO	350 / 338
K2PLF	349 / 338
W8DX	348 / 338
W6OM	347 / 337
K6ND	346 / 340
W6AUG	345 / 338
KC6X	344 / 337
W6YOO	344 / 334
W6OES	344 / 329
W6KK	343 / 338
W6VX	343 / 338
N6AWD	343 / 336
K6LD	343 / 338
W6DCK	342 / 336
WA5VGI	342 / 336
WB6PSY	342 / 333
N6QQ	340 / 337
EU7SA	340 / 336
KB6KTV	340 / 335
KR6C	338 / 335
N6HC	338 / 333
N6OU	334 / 329
N6HY	333 / 329
AD6KQ	328 / 328
W6IRD	327 / 324
K6UNR	333 / 332
W6QE	332 / 324
KM6HB	328 / 325
KJ6Y	327 / 323
K2IXQ	324 / 325
K6SY	312 / 310
WD6L	295 / 292
W6HB	291 / 285
N6DHz	286 / 284
W6NRQ	284 / 284
N7CQQ	268 / 266
N6MXU	267 / 265
K6JW	253 / 251
K6DJ	251 / 251
K6YR	244 / 244
K6GEP	239 / 226
K6HCJ	235 / 235
K6IRD	235 / 235
K6GEP	229 / 226
K6VC	227 / 227
N6VNI	206 / 206
KT6LA	202 / 202
WA6BOB	202 / 198
N6HE	152 / 147
KA6TTV	145 / 145
K6OGO	142 / 142
W6EA	138 / 138
W6WVW	134 / 134
W4EF	132 / 132
K6LX	125 / 125
WA6NOL	112 / 111
NZ6L	27 / 27

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Comments, Announcements, and Interesting Tid-Bits Submitted by Members

Japan Earthquake

A number of us have contacted hams in Japan regarding the earthquake. Steve, W6NRQ, emailed Kan, JA1BK. Kan is fine. He stated the damage was North of Japan on the East Coast. I contacted JH1HGC, Jim, JA1IST, Kazufumi, and JE2YRD, Hiroo. Jim and Kaz were SCDXC members in the 80s. Both are fine and echo Kan's statements. The damage was slight in Tokyo. The only issue is rolling blackouts. Hiroo is in Laos right now and did not respond. Steve also contacted Elvin JA3CZY. Here is his response.

Hi Steve,

Thank you very much for your concern. The quake and tsunami strike Tokyo and far north, mostly JA7 and part of JA0 and JA1 district. It's very bad and terrible disaster, over 10,000 peoples died or missing. We all fine here in Osaka and no damages fortunately.

See you at Visalia,
Elvin, JA3CZY

Interesting Websites (W6HB)

Here is an interesting website that generates an azimuth map for your QTH.

<http://ns6t.net/azimuth/azimuth.html>

Doug sent in this nice YouTube video on OX3KQ's station

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9_H4XRHeSM

Doug also sent in this link on hams in old movies.

<http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2009/12/radio-hams-in-old-cinema.html>

Discovery's Final Launch STS133 (N6RV)

Though not DX related this video had to get in the newsletter. It is the final launch of the Discovery as seen from the window of an airliner flying near Cape Kennedy.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GE_USPTmYXM

Ride Needed From Visalia to Ontario Airport (K6RV)

I am a former NCDXC President (in the 70's) and have not been to a DX convention for 30 years. I retired to Austin, TX, 6 years ago, and decided I better go back to the DX Convention one more time while I can. The reason I am writing is to ask if you would put on your reflector, or in your newsletter, that I need a ride on Sunday, April 17, after the breakfast, from Visalia to the Ontario Airport. I will gladly pay my way with a tank of gas. You probably will have a lot of people who will be going by the Ontario airport on their way home. K6RV@earthlink.com

Basically, there is no way to get from Visalia to Ontario at any reasonable time, or at any reasonable expense. There is a commuter airline out of Visalia, but it only has one flight on Sunday, at 6AM. There are no direct flights out of Fresno. I tried to rent a car in Visalia to drop off at Ontario airport, but they want \$134/DAY for the privilege of picking it up in Visalia and dropping it at Ontario.

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Wanted: Hy Gain TH3-MK4 (WB6PJC)

Wanted: Hy Gain TH3-MK4 three element, 10, 15 & 20 Meter Antenna. If currently up on your mast or tower, I will assist in taking it down. If not local to the Los Angeles area, I will pay for shipping. Please e-mail Arnie, my e-mail address is listed on the club membership list. 73 DE Arnie WB6PJC

Thank You for Plaque Sponsorship (AA4NC ARRL)

Thank you very much for sponsoring the Single Operator Assisted World Winner Plaque in the 2010 ARRL DX CW Contest. I will display it proudly on my shack wall and a copy of the certificate will be displayed at the station down in Belize. Kudos for your continued support of Radio Contesting.

Will Roberts, AA4NC / V31RR

HR607 = We Lose 420 - 440 MHz! (WU6D)

I am sure that you have heard about this bill that is in Congress as we speak. We need to encourage our membership to read HR607 Bill and of course make their own choice of what they want to do. But here is some information sent to me by HQ. If you could send to all them members it would be appreciated. Maybe in this upcoming Newsletter and you can state it is from me. Thanks Carl WU6D – Orange Section Manager

As you may have read, Rep. Peter King (R-NY) has introduced the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011" and the bill has been assigned HR 607 as its number. The full story about the Bill's introduction can be found on the ARRL web at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/spectrum-management-bill-threatens-amateur-frequencies>

As you will read, while the ARRL supports spectrum for the Public Safety needs, we oppose HR 607 in its current form because of the inclusion of the 420-440 MHz spectrum (most of the Amateur 70-cm UHF allocation) as part of a spectrum swap.

At the request of ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, we are asking ARRL members to contact their local Representative asking them to oppose HR 607 in its current form. Members should be directed to <http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters> for resources tools to assist them in their letter writing. These include:

- A sample letter opposing HR 607 in its current form

- A link to the ARRL Webpage that gives the ARRL member the contact information for their Members of Congress

- A link to information sending their letters to our Washington lobbyist to hand-deliver to Capitol Hill

A couple of key points to remember when discussing our opposition to HR 607:

We understand and support the principle that Public Safety and First responders should have the D-Block frequencies.

This website will generate a letter for you: <http://www.kd4pyr.net/hamletter.htm>

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Solar Mystery Solved (W6HB)

The following release was received from the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

SOLAR MYSTERY SOLVED

The Sun has been in the news a lot lately because it's beginning to send out more flares and solar storms. Its recent turmoil is particularly newsworthy because the Sun was very quiet for an unusually long time. Astronomers had a tough time explaining the extended solar minimum. New computer simulations imply that the Sun's long quiet spell resulted from changing flows of hot plasma within it.

"The Sun contains huge rivers of plasma similar to Earth's ocean currents," says Andres Munoz-Jaramillo, a visiting research fellow at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA). "Those plasma rivers affect solar activity in ways we're just beginning to understand."

The Sun is made of a fourth state of matter -- plasma, in which negative electrons and positive ions flow freely. Flowing plasma creates magnetic fields, which lie at the core of solar activity like flares, eruptions, and sunspots.

Astronomers have known for decades that the Sun's activity rises and falls in a cycle that lasts 11 years on average. At its most active, called solar maximum, dark sunspots dot the Sun's surface and frequent eruptions send billions of tons of hot plasma into space. If the plasma hits Earth, it can disrupt communications and electrical grids and short out satellites.

During solar minimum, the Sun calms down and both sunspots and eruptions are rare. The effects on Earth, while less dramatic, are still significant. For example, Earth's outer atmosphere shrinks closer to the surface, meaning there is less drag on orbiting space junk. Also, the solar wind that blows through the solar system (and its associated magnetic field) weakens, allowing more cosmic rays to reach us from interstellar space.

The most recent solar minimum had an unusually long number of spotless days: 780 days during 2008-2010. In a typical solar minimum, the Sun goes spot-free for about 300 days, making the last minimum the longest since 1913.

"The last solar minimum had two key characteristics: a long period of no sunspots and a weak polar magnetic field," explains Munoz-Jaramillo. (A polar magnetic field is the magnetic field at the Sun's north and south poles.) "We have to explain both factors if we want to understand the solar minimum."

To study the problem, Munoz-Jaramillo used computer simulations to model the Sun's behavior over 210 activity cycles spanning some 2,000 years. He specifically looked at the role of the plasma rivers that circulate from the Sun's equator to higher latitudes. These currents flow much like Earth's ocean currents: rising at the equator, streaming toward the poles, then sinking and flowing back to the equator. At a typical speed of 40 miles per hour, it takes about 11 years to make one loop.

Munoz-Jaramillo and his colleagues discovered that the Sun's plasma rivers speed up and slow down like a malfunctioning conveyor belt. They find that a faster flow during the first half of the solar cycle, followed by a slower flow in the second half of the cycle, can lead to an extended solar minimum. The cause of the speed-up and slowdown likely involves a complicated feedback between the plasma flow and solar magnetic fields.

"It's like a production line -- a slowdown puts 'distance' between the end of the last solar cycle and the start of the new one," says Munoz-Jaramillo.

The ultimate goal of studies like this is to predict upcoming solar maxima and minima -- both their strength and timing. The team focused on simulating solar minima, and say that they can't forecast the next solar minimum (which is expected to occur in 2019) just yet.

"We can't predict how the flow of these plasma rivers will change," explains lead author Dibyendu Nandi (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata). "Instead, once we see how the flow is changing, we can predict the consequences."

Their findings appear in the March 3 issue of the journal *Nature*. The paper is co-authored by Nandi, Munoz-Jaramillo, and Petrus Martens (Montana State University and CfA).

Headquartered in Cambridge, Mass., the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) is a joint collaboration between the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and the Harvard College Observatory. CfA scientists, organized into six research divisions, study the origin, evolution and ultimate fate of the universe.

Fishing Net Beacons (WB6PSY)

I do not know how many in the club work 160m but evidently there's interference by floating fish nets in the ocean. They have a beacon attached so the owner can keep up with their location. It sends out an identifier in Morse Code followed by a long dash. They are a pain in the ass on 160M when they pop up on the DX frequency you are trying to work, especially when the DX has a weak signal. I believe most of them are owned by China and Japan. Here's an interesting article about it:

<http://www.genesisradio.com.au/VK2DX/fishnet.html>

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

2011 Friendship Radiosport Games

K0OV, Joe Moell, suggested I contact you about doing an announcement in the SCDXC Newsletter on an international competition coming up this summer in Russia. The 2011 Friendship Radiosport Games will be held in Khabarovsk, Russia, starting 13 August 2011. The Friendship Radiosport Games (FRG) started as an exchange between the Sister Cities of Portland, OR, and Khabarovsk, with the later addition of other Sister Cities in Canada and Japan. The games include competitions in HF Contesting, CW sending and receiving (and pileup), and ARDF. Competitions tend to be on a more friendly basis than most international competitions, and participants need not compete in every event. The highlight of these games for us - and I think for most of the participants - is the lasting international friendships we have made.

With the games back in Khabarovsk this year, they are inviting additional participants from Sister Cities in China and Korea, in addition to teams from other parts of Russia. Our local Friendship Amateur Radio Society (FARS) group has been suffering from attrition for some time, so we're inviting other folks to join us as part of the US team to this event. Space on the team is limited, but I'm hoping a number of your DXers might be interested. The competitions - and, indeed, the entire event! - are well run, fairly judged and quite enjoyable.

The actual competitions, with opening and closing ceremonies, will run from the 13th through the 16th of August. Most participants are there for a week or less, depending on flights. Typically, the locals provide drivers, accommodations, social events, sightseeing tours, and other interesting activities. They have announced that food and lodging will be provided free for a week to ten days this year. Khabarovsk is in Far Eastern Russia, right across the Amur River from Northern China. (Some of us would call it Siberia, but the Russians would all point further west for that.) The shortest flights appear to be via Seoul or Beijing, but the cheapest flights are through Moscow. The flights don't run every day, and often there is an overnight in one of the connecting cities. If people are interested, we'll be happy to provide further information and/or answer questions. We would like to make final decisions about who is on the team sometime in April, so having a vague sense of "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" in the next week or so would be really useful for planning purposes. We don't have a final word on participant costs, but they try to keep them quite low - as evidenced by the free food and lodging - so air fare will be the main expense.

I can be reached through wb6byu@arri.net.

Dale Hunt
WB6BYU

Wouxun Dual Band HTs

Wouxun, a Chinese company, has entered the amateur radio market with a dual band HT. They intend to market a mobile dual band radio also. Reports indicate that these radios are very reliable and if they do fail the price (\$120) makes them almost a throw away. We have acquired 4 of these radios and will be raffling the first off at the May meeting!

<http://www.wouxun.us/>

TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES

North America West Coast

#9 FT5Z Amsterdam Island

We now complete the West Coast Top Ten of 2009. The 2010 Top Ten List has arrived and there are a few switch ups. Three entities have fallen off the list, Heard Island (VK0H), Navassa (KP1), and Somalia (T5). These were replaced by three more, Bouvet (3Y/B), Eritrea (E3), and Lakshadweep (VU7). It is obvious that the top ten are sample dependent. Heard Island fell the furthest to 26. Since there has been only one DXpedition in the past twenty years it is hard to believe that the demand for this entity has changed. Obviously what has made a difference is the individuals reporting. This shift may be caused by more recent additions to our ranks taking an active role in the survey. It may also be the opposite since most of us have worked all six. In any event it will be interesting to investigate the three new entities. Note that they are all neighbors to ones we have looked at. As always it is the out of the way places that are the rarest.

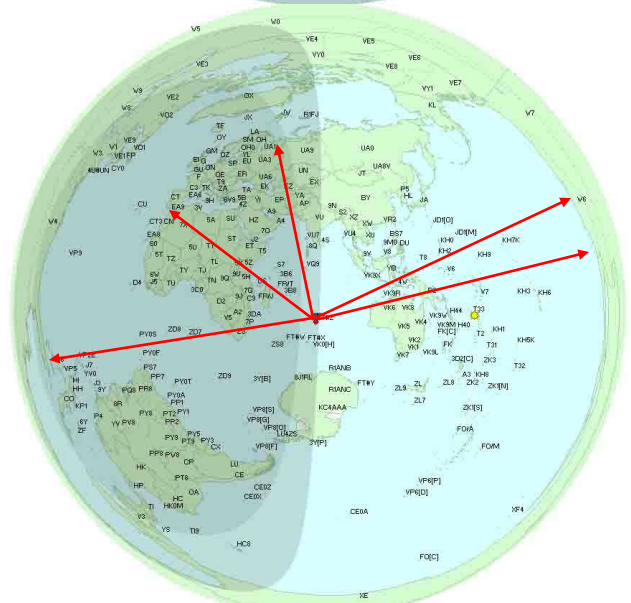
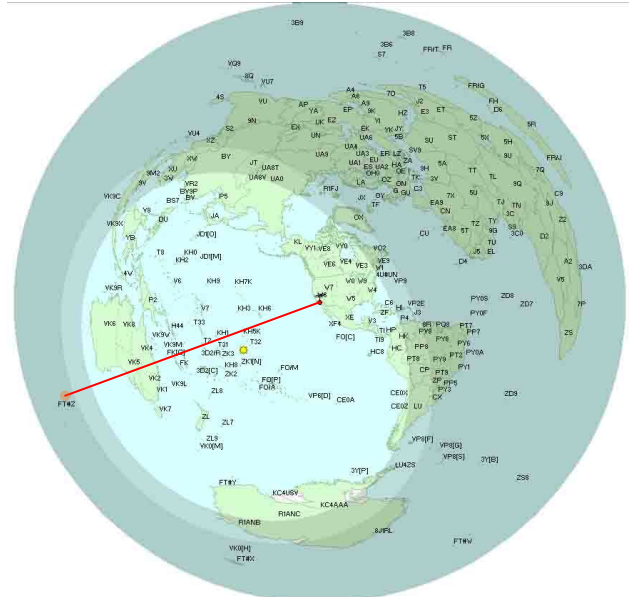
Now we will look at the last two entities on the 2009 list, Amsterdam & St. Paul Islands, and Juan De Nova / Europa Islands.

Amsterdam and St. Paul Islands Geography

Île Amsterdam is one of only three land antipodes of the continental United States (opposite side of the earth farthest away). It corresponds to an area about 20 miles (32 km) southeast of Lamar, Colorado. (The other two land antipodes of the U.S. are Île Saint-Paul and Kerguelen Island.) If you look at the map you will notice that Texas is on the edge of the map. Amsterdam is at the antipode for the middle of the US. So which way do you point? Note that the West Coast is separated in azimuth from the East Coast by nearly 120 degrees. Our path is through Australia. The East Coast has to contend with Southern Europe.

Amsterdam and St Paul Islands are located in the southernmost end of the Indian Ocean at 37°50' South and 77°35' East, and are among the most isolated in the world. They are located more than 1864 miles from any continent, about halfway between South Africa and Australia. Both are volcanic island, rising from the fault separating the Indian Ocean from the Antarctic Ocean. Amsterdam is broadly oval in shape, 5 miles wide by 3.7 miles across, with a maximum altitude of 2890 ft.

The two islands lie on a narrow ridge which falls to great depths. Of very recent formation, Amsterdam is a relatively simple volcano made up of deposits of lava and basaltic slag. From the successive eruptions of the various craters on the island. There are more than ten different craters. The principal craters, believed to have created the island, are those of Mont de la Dive (2843 ft) and La Grande Marmite (2395 ft). Lava flows radiate outwards from these craters, forming low cliffs where they meet the sea.



The youngest of the craters is Dumas crater dating back to the last century. No sign of volcanic activity has been recorded recently on the island. Paleomagnetic data suggest that the bulk of the island was made during the last 690,000 years. The only remaining evidence of the original eruption is one caldera 1.24 miles in diameter.

Fog is relatively rare, occurring on only 11 days of the year. Rainfall is high with an annual average of 43.8 in over 239 days. Hail or snow are sometimes observed in winter but seldom at low altitude. December to March is drier (3.01 inches per month vs. 3.94 inches per month from April to November).

The wind is persistent with 150 days of the year having strong winds above 30 mph: the most frequent directions being the WNW and the NW.

Martin de Viviès base is the only inhabited location on Amsterdam. It has about 30 residents, including administrative staff, a doctor, technical personnel (power station, plumbing, joinery, kitchen, store, station and telecomms) and scientists (studying the weather, ornithology, physicochemistry of the atmosphere and geomagnetism). The island of Amsterdam and St Paul, forms part of the District of St Paul and Amsterdam.

Climate

Amsterdam and St Paul have a moderate oceanic climate. The Antarctic convergence lies approximately 310 miles south and the temperature of sea water on the surface varies from 54.9° in August to 63.9° in February.

Air temperatures vary from 52.2° in August to 62.6° in February, the annual average being 56.3°. Relative humidity's are generally high and range from 80% in March to 82.9% in November. This is due to the frequency of low cloud ceilings.

Amsterdam Island History

On March 18, 1522, Juan Sebastián del Cano, a Spanish explorer who had served under Magellan, discovered an island located at 37°52' S, 77°32' E in the southern Indian Ocean, while sailing on the Victoria from Timor (île de la Sonde) to Capetown, South Africa. The ships journals, which were kept by the navigator Francisco Alvo, mention "an island of high elevation, approximately six leagues (18 nautical miles) in circumference and appearing uninhabited. No one could not land in spite of several attempts."

A century later, Harwick Claesz de Hillegom spotted a second, smaller island about 17 leagues (50 miles) further south, located at 38°43' S, 77°29' E, and named it after his ship, the Zeewolf. This second island is known today as Ile Saint-Paul.

While en route to Java on June 17, 1633, the Dutch Governor Anthonie van Diemen named the northern of the two islands after his ship, Nieuw Amsterdam, or "New Amsterdam" as it was known today. In 1696, the Dutch navigator Willem de Vlaming also described the two islands in his accounts. New Amsterdam's at this time was thickly forested.

It was not until March 28, 1792 that the Admiral Joseph-Antoine Bruni d'Entrecasteaux (1739-1793) and Huon de Kermadec first explored of the eastern coast of New Amsterdam, performing detailed surveys. During this visit, d'Entrecasteaux witnessed an immense brushfire on the island.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, the two islands were occupied by victims of shipwrecks and fishermen from the island of Réunion. French Captain Pierre François Péron was marooned three years (from 1792 to 1795) and published his memories. American and English whaling ships would leave part of their crews there to hunt the abundant rookeries of otaries (a type of fur seal), whose skins were valued highly in China. By the end of the 19th century, however, the massacre of an estimated 50,000 seals had left the species virtually extinct.

At about the same latitude as Melbourne, situated halfway between Africa and Australia, both islands were well-marked on all the old Australian maps and school atlases. Although they could be seen from about 20 leagues (60 nautical miles) in clear weather. Many sea captains were afraid of hitting the islands in the middle of the night, as happened to several ships bound for Australia.

The islands were also used as land marks. According to an entry in the Fall 1813 edition of *The Naval Chronicle* (pg. 321), "Prior to the use of chronometers and lunar observations, it was customary for ships bound to the Oriental sea to sight the islands of St. Paul and Amsterdam for a correction to their latitude." The *Chronicle* also stated, "On the east side of St. Paul is an inlet leads to a circular basin that was the crater of a volcano, and into which the sea ebbs and flows over a causeway at the entrance of the inlet..."

For Australians, it is the site of a spectacular shipwreck involving the 300 survivors of the *Meagara*, one of the first iron-hull British navy ships, sent to Hobart in 1872 in a scandalously unseaworthy condition. It started taking in water massively after leaving South Africa and just managed to get to Saint-Paul where it foundered on the reef at the entrance to the crater. To the surprise of two French fishermen living there at the time, the 300 men set up a veritable town out of the wreck, and after managing to send word out after one month, were rescued two months later. There are still surviving stone buildings from this and earlier settlements.

Numerous scientific expeditions have also visited the two islands. From November 19 to December 6, 1857, the Austrian frigate *Novara* disembarked a team on Saint-Paul to study the flora, fauna, and geology. Between September 23, 1874 and January 4, 1875, a team of French astronomers on the sailing vessel *La Dive* landed on Saint-Paul to observe the passing of Venus in front of the sun.

During the 19th century, several attempts had been made to establish settlements on these islands. Martin Dupeyrat, the captain of the ship *L'Olympe*, acting at the behest of the Governor of Réunion, disembarked at Amsterdam Island on July 1, 1843, and then on Saint-Paul two days later in order to install a French fishing station. All fishing operations were abandoned in 1853 when the French government renounced possession of the two islands. Then, on December 18, 1870, a peasant by the name of Heurtin from the island of Réunion, sailing on *La Sarcelle*, disembarked on Amsterdam with his family and a few friends to start a sheep and cattle breeding business. Their enterprise failed and the group was forced to leave the island on August 19, 1871 leaving their herds behind.

It was not until 1892 that the crew of the sloop *Bourdonnais*, followed by *L'Eure* in 1893, would take definitive possession of the two islands in the name of the French government.

In 1928, the *Compagnie Générale des Îles Kerguelen* recruited René Bossière to establish a canning facility on Saint-Paul, *La Langouste Française* ("the French Lobster"). When the company went bankrupt in 1931, it left 7 of its workers stranded on the island; three years later, only 2 survivors were rescued. This tragedy was known as *Les Oubliés de Saint-Paul* ("The forgotten ones of Saint-Paul"). Ruins of the old factory and some rusted machinery are still visible today.

On December 31, 1949, a team of French scientists, directed by the meteorologist Paul Martin de Viviers, were brought to Amsterdam Island by Captain Verdadaine of the lobster-fishing boat Sapper. This expedition, consisting of 23 people, was to remain for eight months. After having installed the first permanent scientific base of the Territoire des Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises (TAAF).

Every year since 1949, new expeditions rotated to the island to continue the scientific studies and to ensure that France maintains possession and control of these islands. Amsterdam Island provides an ideal location to study the global impact of atmospheric contaminants such as radioactivity from Tchernobyl, increases in CO2 concentration, radon, sulfur, etc. and to measure the greenhouse effect of these and other elements. In addition to atmospheric phenomena, scientists on Amsterdam monitor global electromagnetic energy, seismic events, weather, and the effects of ecology on animal reproduction and bird migrations.

Amsterdam Island Amateur Radio History

FB8ZZ - Would the real FB8ZZ please stand up!

This story reminds me of a discussion with a friend regarding how many actors played James Bond. We started counting on our fingers (Sean Connery, Roger Moore, ...) and got up to eight. Before we could finish he blurted out 107. We had forgotten the original movie Casino Royale with David Niven. In one scene there were about a hundred 007s coming in and out of a room through various doors. If you look at the table on the next page you will understand what piqued this memory. France often assigned a single call sign to each French Antarctic and Indian Ocean possession. There were at least 25 operators who used the call sign FB8ZZ. A team was rotated into Amsterdam Island every year since 1949. The first operation took place in 1950 and there was an operator on station almost continuously through 1980, 30 years! FB8ZZ was used up to 1972. After that individual call signs were issued. There have been 32 separate call signs used from Amsterdam by 50 different groups consisting of 56 individual operators. Given the number of operations it is paradoxical that the island is so high on the most wanted list. A possible explanation is that the last operation was 11 years ago in 1999. Furthermore many of the operations were casual, with limited equipment, and not at the best time in the solar cycle. The number and dedication of the operators in that era is remarkable.

Today we rely heavily on satellite communication. To think that one exoatmospheric nuclear event or monster solar anomaly could wipe out the satellites servicing half the earth would eliminate all that communication as well as satellite internet trunks essential for daily commerce and communication, satellite television (both direct to home and international feeds), and most solid state hardware on the ground. Hang on to that old tube rig! You may need it.





From 1972 on there have been a parade of callsigns assigned to various operators. From the names it appears that all of them of French. No international DXpedition has visited the island . Given the accessibility to the island it would be quite a journey and the stay would be for a few months! Nevertheless France does offer a tour. It may not be so bad for a ham!

Tourism

Yes, believe it or not, the TAAF region has been opened to tourism since 1994! Tourists with a penchant for adventure can take connecting flights from around the world to Réunion Island, then board the Marion Dufresne for a tour of Crozet, Kerguelen, Amsterdam and Saint-Paul islands. Winter tours for hardy souls cost between €4,000 and €5,300 (double or single occupancy), while summer tours range from €4,800 to €6,200. (Fares include accommodations on the islands.) The website below is full of information about all of the colonies of France.



Amsterdam Island Activity (FB8Z / FT5Z)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
1950	FB8ZZ	Henri Delsalle, Louis Felard, Alex Parent
1951	FB8ZZ	Louis Desachy, Joseph Klein
1952	FB8ZZ	Louis Desachy, Joseph Klein
1953	FB8ZZ	Donskoff, Alex Parent, Andre, Roger, Rene Chapius
1954	FB8ZZ	R. Baudelot
1955	FB8ZZ	R. Baudelot
1956	FB8ZZ	Ferte, Marius Teyssier, F9IX
1957	FB8ZZ	Marius Teyssier, F9IX
1958	FB8ZZ	Jules, Mauritius, Joseph Klein
1959	FB8ZZ	Jehan-Yves Bellier, George Ambielh, F2TP, Michel Aubert
1961	FB8ZZ	Remy, Spitz
1962	FB8ZZ	Roger Glock
1963	FB8ZZ	Louis Bucci, F6GFL
1964	FB8ZZ	Lionel Gaultrier, F9UF
1967	FB8ZZ	Michel Florentine
1969	FB8ZZ	Gilbert Girard, F3LO
1970	FB8ZZ	G. Faure
1971	FB8ZZ	Bernard Husser, F8CZN
1972	FB8ZZ	J. Richard
1972	FB8ZA	Allain Marcel, F6BCN
1973	FB8ZB	Bernard Rebgrolles
1974	FB8ZC	Maurice Cottance
1974	FB8ZD	Jaques Bihel, F5JEG
1975	FB8ZE	Francis Da Matha Sant'Anna
1975	FB8ZF	Daniel Duval
1975	FB8ZG	Gestin Jean Pierre, F8US
1975	FB8ZH	Michel Labarde
1976	FB8ZI	Regeasse Giles
1976	FB8ZJ	Pierre Gaillard
1977	FB8ZK	Jean Francois Petit
1977	FB8ZL	Christian Rio
1978	FB8ZM	Henry Bouchet, F6EAY
1978	FB8ZN	Jean Michel Gosselin
1980	FB8ZO	Jean Marie Neal, F6EYB
1983	FB8ZP	Michel Margaria, F6DWQ
1983	FB8ZQ	Alain Faron, F3CW
1983	FB8ZR	Michel Jolibert
1985	FT8ZA	Jean Claude Deshoulliers, F6GWO
1987	FT0ZA	Jean Claude Deshoulliers, F6GWO
1988	FT5ZB	Danny Prevostat, F5CW
1988	FT0ZB	Danny Prevostat, F5CW
1988	FT3ZC	Philippe Chepel, FC1HJO
1988	FT3ZD	Fabrice Houdebert, F5FUA
1989	FT4ZE	Michal Fernandez, F5NWG
1994	FT5ZF	Pierre Clauael, F5NLL
1997	FT5ZG	Eric Lazzard, F6ICB
1997	FT5ZH	Eric, F5SIH & Medhi F5PFP
1998	FT5ZI	Bernard Sinardet
1998	FT5ZJ	Michael Lecointre, F6JML
1999	FT1ZK	Caroline, 6 Meters only



<http://www.discoverfrance.net/Colonies>

With little information available on all the Amsterdam Island operators, particularly the FB8ZZ crew this discussion is limited to the only a few operations. Emails were sent out to the operators who are still around and hopefully they will respond. It is always great to hear it directly from the man on the ground!

FB8ZZ Felard Louis (1st mission)

Louis Felard was the chief radio officer for the first expedition 1949-1950. The cards were signed by the QSL Managers, F9LQ & F8BS.

FB8ZZ Joseph Klein (1951, 2nd mission)

Joseph Klein, F6GKK, was the radio officer from 27 January 1951 to February 10, 1952. He also was part of the expedition's preliminary FB8XX in 49/50. Joseph returned to Amsterdam Island in 1952 on the third mission. He left the island on October 17, 1953. He then returned in 1958. Joseph became a silent key in October 2003, 53 years after his arrival at Ile Amsterdam.



The link below give a little history of the period when FB8ZZ was the only call sign.

http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?hl=en&sl=fr&u=http://cdxc.free.fr/Histoire/f_onm09.htm&prev=/search%3Fq%3DNouvelle%2BQSL%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dfirefox-a%26hs%3D43K%26rls%3Dorg.mozilla:en-US:official%26prmd%3Dvns&rurl=translate.google.com&usq=ALkJrhjGcpMpFJ8UETvtGdfnfxLReF-AIA

FT5ZH (1998)

Two operators, Eric, F5SIH, and Medhi F5PFP travelled to the island for a month in the summer of 1998 (11/27/98—12/21/98). They netted 32,000 QSOs with 14,000 unique stations. Furthermore they produced two websites. The first though it seems very Spartan has a wonderful YouTube link at the bottom that records their trip in six videos. In fact the first call sign you can copy on the fifth video is a member of SCDXC. Listen for the call ... It is loud!

<http://f5nod.chez-alice.fr/ft5z.html>

The next link the created is a series of pictures from the trip and again is excellent.

http://www.french-polar-team.fr/FT5Z_Martin_de_Vivies_Station_Amsterdam_Island.php

With the two links above there is not much left to explain. It almost makes you want to go there yourself. In fact the trip is to Reunion, Kerguelen, Crozet, Amsterdam and St. Paul. Now that would be trip of a lifetime!



FB8ZA

NOUVELLE - AMSTERDAM

F6 BCN

ex FY 7AC

FB8ZC

FB8ZD

TERRES AUSTRALES
ET ANTARCTIQUES
FRANÇAISES

FB8ZN

MARTIN
DE
VIVIES

DATE	GMT	TO RADIO	MHZ	RST	2WAY	QSL
28 Janv. 78	0846	N63V	14	599	CW	REC SSR TNX

QSL VIA W4LZZ

OP

Jacques

JEAN-MICHEL GOSSELIN

ILE SAINT PAUL ET AMSTERDAM

WAZRT

FB8 ZO

St PAUL AND AMSTERDAM ISLAND

MARTIN DE VIVIES

LONG 77° 32 E

LAT 37° 41 S

EX FKBCJ FODAG

#EYB

F6EYB BP1

40000 GAILLERES

NIEL JEAN MARIE QSL VIA

BUREAU REF

FIG. LACOSTE

TERRES AUSTRALES
ET ANTARCTIQUES
FRANÇAISES

FB8ZM

MARTIN
DE
VIVIES

LONG 79° 32 E

LAT 37° 41 S



OP
BOUCHET Henri
FOAG - FLBBT - TRAY
ILE SAINT PAUL ET AMSTERDAM



AMSTERDAM ISLAND

Zone 68

TERRES AUSTRALES ET ANTARCTIQUES
FRANÇAISES

FB8ZP

Op. Michel Margaria F6DWQ



FRENCH AUSTRALIA TERRITORIES

FB8XAB

FB8ZQ

FB8WI



TERRES AUSTRALES
ET ANTARCTIQUES FRANÇAISES

XXXXXXXXX MISSION
1986-1987

MARTIN DE VIVIES

Long 77° 32 E

LAT 37° 41 S



AMSTERDAM

FT8ZA

F6GWQ

FLBDH

Jean Claude DESROULIERES

RADIO

F6HMH

DATE

701.87

GMT

1600

NET

53

MHZ

14

RST

558

2WAY

SSS

Best 73"

QSL PSR TNX via F6PNU

FT8ZA.

AMSTERDAM Island

FT5ZB

ITU 68 WAZ 39



OP, Dany F5CW (ex F6CIB, J3881)
HSC 1401 TNR 3042 REF 3801 CDXC 504



ITU 68 AMSTERDAM Island WAZ 39

FT0ZB

HSC#1421 TNR#3042, REF#28011, CDXC#536

QSO with	DATE	GMT	MHZ	RST	2way
FE6AJA	27.3.88	0947	28	53	SSS

Op: Dany F5CW (ex F6CIB, J3881)

QSL manager: F6E8H

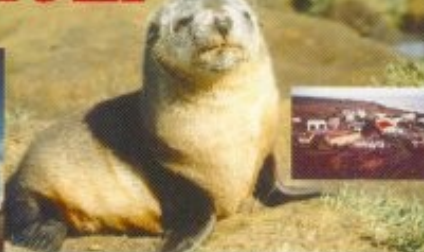
QSL "Les Nouvelles DX"

FT4ZE

AMSTERDAM ISLAND



FT5ZF



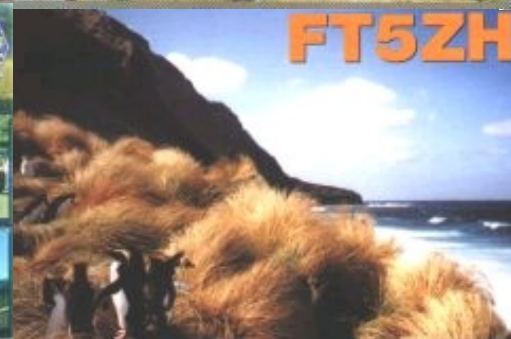
FT5ZG

Amsterdam Island



Manager
F5R00

FT5ZH



FT5ZJ

Nouvelle Amsterdam



TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES

North America West Coast

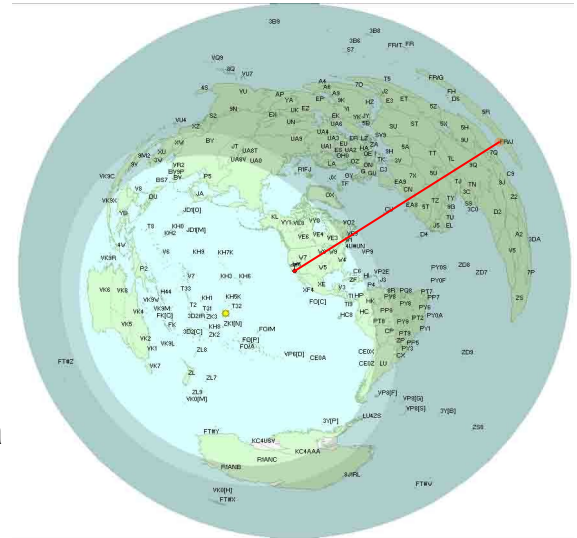
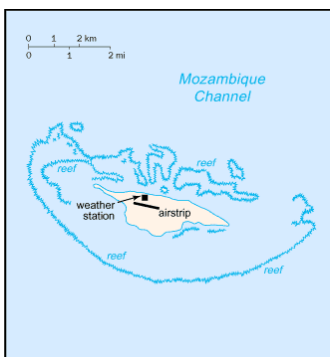
#10 FR/J/E Juan De Nova and Europa Islands

Juan De Nova

Juan de Nova Island is a 1.7 mi² low, flat, tropical island in the narrowest part of the Mozambique Channel, about one-third of the way between Madagascar and Mozambique. Anchorage is possible off the northeast of the island which also has a 4264 foot long airstrip. Administratively, the island is one of the Scattered islands in the Indian Ocean, a district of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands.

Juan de Nova, about 3.7 miles long and 1 mile at its widest, is a nature reserve surrounded by reefs which enclose an area (not a true lagoon like in an atoll) of roughly 15.5 mi². Forests cover about half the island. A large numbers of terns breed there from November to March. Turtles nest in the beaches around the island.

The island is named after João da Nova, a Galician admiral in the service of Portugal who came across the island in 1501. It has been a French possession since 1897. Guano (phosphate) deposits were exploited from the start of the 20th century until 1970. The island was abandoned during World War II and was visited by German submariners. Installations, including a hangar, rail lines, houses and a jetty are in ruins.



Location of the Scattered islands in the Indian Ocean:

- 1 : Bassas da India FR
- 2 : Europa Island FR/E
- 3 : Glorioso Islands FR/G
- 4 : Juan de Nova Island FR/J
- 5 : Tromelin Island FR/T

D6 : Comoros
5R : Madagascar
3B8 : Mauritius
C9 : Mozambique
FR : Réunion
FH : Mayotte

Europa Island

Europa Island is a 10.8 mi.² low-lying tropical island in the Mozambique Channel, about a third of the way from southern Madagascar to southern Mozambique. It has 13.6 miles of coastline, but no ports or harbors. Anchorage is possible offshore. The airstrip is 4920 feet long.

The island is surrounded by coral beaches and a fringing reef and encloses a mangrove lagoon of around 3.5 mi². Its vegetation also consists of dry forest, scrub, euphorbia and the remains of a sisal plantation. This heavily wooded island has been a French possession since 1897; it is the site of a small military garrison that staffs a weather station.



Europa Island is a nature reserve and host to migratory seabirds. It is one of the world's largest nesting sites for green turtles. It is also home to goats introduced by settlers in the late 18th century.



The island takes its name from the British ship Europa, which visited it in 1774. It has been a possession of France since 1897, but is also claimed by Madagascar. Ruins and graves on Europa island attest to several attempts at settlement from the 1860s to the 1920s.

Obviously there is not a whole lot said about either Juan Da Nova or Europa islands. It seems they are barely habitable and require some outside support.

Amateur Radio History

As demonstrated by the two tables to the right there has been a great deal of activity on both islands. Again as we have seen before the activity has diminished over the years. This fall off can be explained in part by the diminishing roll of point to point radio communications service in the overall scheme of things. In the 50s, 60s, and 70s many rare and semi-rare entities were populated with ham operators. Even if they were not professional radio operators amateur radio was an extremely useful way to communicate back home and with friends. Satellite communications and the internet have replaced the old reliable ether. Nevertheless there are usually satellite operators and electronic experts at every weather station and outpost. Lucky for us many of them developed the interest in communication through amateur radio. Do not forget the missionaries who carry radios with them too.

Another reason for the fall off is safety and the economic conditions in several places. We have seen people killed for what they carry with them. Terrorism is at a point where just being from a different tribe is enough to be killed over. Of course this is nothing new except it seems to be more prevalent. If you escape one attempt another is probably waiting around the corner.

Again looking at the lists you see that most operations were by the French with the exception of Gus Browning and a German group. Finally consider the fact that the last operation was in 2006, almost five years ago. It seems like this entity is due. Transportation is again a factor. It seems to be difficult to access the islands and there is no power or fresh water. Everything has to be carried on with the operator.

Europa Island Activity (FR /E)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
1963	FR7ZC/E	Gus Browning, W4BPD
1969	FR7ZP/E	Maxime Turpin, FR7ZP
1969	FR7ZU/E	Jaques Quillet, FR7ZU
1970	FR7AE/E	Roger Augugliaro, F6HYU
1971	FR7ZL/E	FR5ZL, Guy P. de la Rhodiere
1971	FR7AM/E	Thom Chellier, FR7AM
1972	FR7ZU/E	Jaques Quillet, FR7ZU
1975	FR5ZQ/E	Henry Namtameco, FR5ZQ
1976	FR5AI/E	Hoarau Yoland, FR5AI
1981	FR0GGL/E	Jan Niel, F6EYB
1981	FR0FLO/E	Herik, FR0FLO
1981	FR7BP/E	FR7BP, John
1990	FR5AI/E	Hoarau Yoland, FR5AI
1994	FR0EH/E	Bruno Desailly, F5OYM
1988	FR4FA/E	Bruno Desailly, F5OYM
1990	FR5AI/E	Hoarau Yoland, FR5AI
1994	FR5ZU/E	Jaques Quillet, FR5ZU
1994	FR5HG/E	Michel Kiroffo, F5MXQ
2006	FR5IZ/E	Luc Clemina, FR5IZ

Juan De Nova Island Activity (FR /J)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
1963	FR7ZC/J	Gus Browning, W4BPD
1974	FR7ZU/J	Jaques Quillet, FR7ZU
1974	FR7ZL/J	Guy P. de la Rhodiere, FR5ZL
1975	FR7AI/J	Roland Hoarau, FR7AI
		Wilfried, DJ5RT
		Baldur, DJ6SI
		Regine, DJ7YQ
		Butz, DL6PE
		Harry, DL8CM
		Paul, F6EXV
1980	FR0DZ/J FR0RX/J FR0CIW/J	
1981	FR0FLO/J	Herik, FR0FLO
1981	FR7BP/J	John, FR7BP
1982	FR0GGL/J	Jan Niel, F6EYB
1987	FR5ES/J	John River
1988	FR0EH/J	Bruno Desailly, F5OYM
1988	FR4FA/J	Bruno Desailly, F5OYM
1991	FR5AI/J	Hoarau Yoland, FR5AI
1994	FR5ZQ/J	Henry Namtameco, FR5ZQ
1997	FR5DT/J	Thierry, FR5DT
1997	FR5KH/J	Radio Club 2nd RPIMA
1998	FR5ZU/J	Jaques Quillet, FR5ZU

Les Nouvelles DX

This webpage has been a great resource for all the French possessions in the top ten list. Below is a link to a description of the activity on Europa from this website. It is long and you will have to cut and paste it.

<http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=fr&u=http://lesnouvellesdx.fr/article/europa.php&ei=SseHTdTNOYLSsAPGjsD9Cw&sa=X&oi=translate&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CDUQ7gEwAw&prev=/search%3Fq%3DGus%2BBrowning%2B%2522FR7ZC/E%2522%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dfirefox-a%26hs%3D8mn%26rls%3Dorg.mozilla:en-US:official%26prmd%3Dvnso>

F2VX also wrote an excellent article on the French possessions in the region.

http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=fr&u=http://www.lesnouvellesdx.fr/galerie/galerie2.php%3Fpage%3Ddeparsesqsl%26pfx%3DFR7ZC&ei=rc6HTbevBYvksQPT_ayTDA&sa=X&oi=translate&ct=result&resnum=3&ved=0CCkQ7gEwAjgK&prev=/search%3Fq%3DGus%2BBrowning%2B%2522FR7ZC/J%2522%26start%3D10%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dfirefox-a%26hs%3DdHo%26sa%3DN%26rls%3Dorg.mozilla:en-US:official%26prmd%3Dvnso

Gus Browning (W4BPD)

Any operation in this region can not be complete without a discussion on Gus' activities. It looks like all of 1962, 1963, and part 1964 Gus was traveling throughout the Indian Ocean region. It started with an operation from Monaco (3A) in April 1962, then Seychelles (VQ9), Aldabra (VQ9A), Cosmoledo Island (VQ9C), back to Aldabra (VQ9A/7), Chagos Island (8C), Burundi (9H), Rwanda (9H), Gough Island (ZD9), Bouvet Island (LH4), Mauritius (VQ8), Reunion (FR7ZI), Juan De Nova (FR7ZC/J), Madagascar (5R), Tromelin Island (FR7ZC/T), Comoro Island (FH8CE), Glorioso Island (FR7ZC/G), Europa (FR7ZC/E), French Somaliland (FL5A), Kamaran Island (VS9), Aden (VS9), Yemen (4W1), Bhutan (AC5A), Tibet (AC4), Sikkim (AC3), Nepal (9N), Afghanistan (YA), Masiraw Island (VS9), Kuria Muria (VS9), East Pakistan (AP5), West Pakistan (AP2), Laos (XW8), Thailand (HS), and China (BY)! A few questions arise from all of these. What did he do for a living? When did he work if he did? How could he afford to travel all over the place? The short answer was that we did! He was supported through donations and his job was producing the DXer's Magazine. Below is a link to a collection of snippets from Gus' magazine, DXer's Magazine. If you can not access the link below the complete set is available in WORD format.

<http://springfieldsc.us/Archive%20page.htm>

The next link will take you to a very interesting website on W4BPD. The general website, K2CD, is also full of tributes to DXers of that era. Maybe we need to find someone to step up and go out like Gus did. Any volunteers?

<http://www.reocities.com/k2cddx/gusbrowning.html>

As always the majority of the operators and operations have no history on the web. The only other information found on the web is the TO4E DXpedition. The rest is stored in the magazines and articles of that era, possibly lost forever.

TO4E Europa DXpedition 2003

A team of French DXers went on expedition 11/25/2003 to 12/21/2003 Europa. The team consisted of Danny, F5CW, Jean Louis, F5NHJ, Pascal, F5PTM, Eric, F5JKK and Freddy, F5IRO. A very good article describing the trip and the island can be found on the website below.

http://europa2003.free.fr/europa_2003-e.htm#histoire

FR/E Europa Island QSLs

RADIO	DATE	GMT	MCS	MODE	RST
FRØ GGL/ E					
op. JAN NIEL					
qsl via box 386 saint pierre					
97410 Reunion island					
ex fk8cj-f6eyb-fb8zo					

WAZ 39 - uit 53

WTS THE 73 PRO

FR5ZU/

- ☐ Reunion
☐ Tromelin
☐ Glorieuses

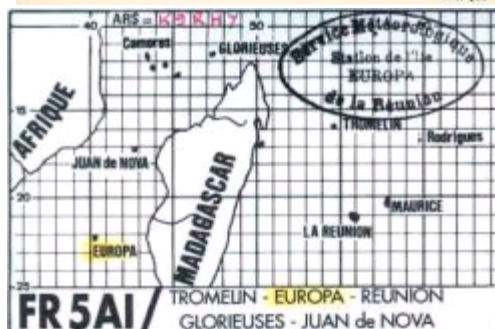


OCEAN INDIEN

CONFIRMING STATION	DATE	GMT	UTC	MCS	RST	MODE
21205	30	3	94	17	54	20

QSL Via VE2NW

73, Jacques Quillet
TXN QSL



FR5AI/

TROMELIN - EUROPA - REUNION
GLORIEUSES - JUAN de NOVA

EUROPA island
ITU 53 WAZ 39 IOTA AF 09
DX CC JUAN DE NOVA

FR5HGE/E
J28NU XU5SE
Michel KIROFFO

EUROPA

MADAGASCAR

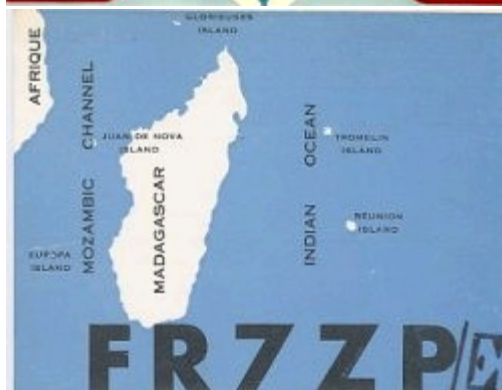
RADIO	DATE	GMT	UTC	MCS	RST	MODE
FSPFP	24-04-95	17-00	14	59	558	2 Way

VIA PPFW - P.O. BOX 14 - 91261 ARPAIGN CEDEX (FRANCE)
PLEASE: SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE AND 2 IRC's (OR G.S.)



FR7ZC/E

W4ECI "Ach" WORLD WIDE DX PÉDITION W4BPD "Gus"



REUNION

FR7ZQ/ IL EUROPA

TO RADIO	DATE	GMT	FREQ	MODE	RST
DL9VS	10-10-75	17-03	14.113	55B	55

STP. GAZAL

73 if you

AUGUGLIARO ROGER

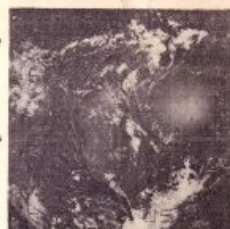
FR7AE/ E

B. P. N° 5

SAINTE-CLOTILDE - SAINT-DENIS

97-4 REUNION

MADAGASCAR, Ile de la REUNION, Ile MAURICE photographées par le satellite U.S. NIMBUS



FR7ZU

- ☐ REUNION ISL.
☒ EUROPA ISL.
☐ GLORIOSO ISL.
☐ TROMELIN ISL.

Operator : Jack Quillet

Spécial DX - Péditation
Europa Island

FR7ZL/ E

Guy P. de la Rhodière
Montagne - Saint-Denis
Réunion Island

THOM CHELLIER
B. P. 178 - ST-DENIS
REUNION

FR7AM/E

EUROPA ISLAND

STATION	BAND	DATE	GMT	REPORT	MODE
Fc9xP	14	21/9/78	1636	57	2032B

So. Indian O. French Isl. Expedition

☐ FR7 BP/J
☐ FRØ FLO/J
☐ FR7 BP/E
☒ FRØ FLO/E
☐ FHØ FLO

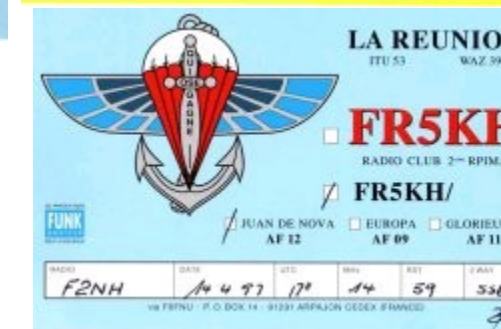
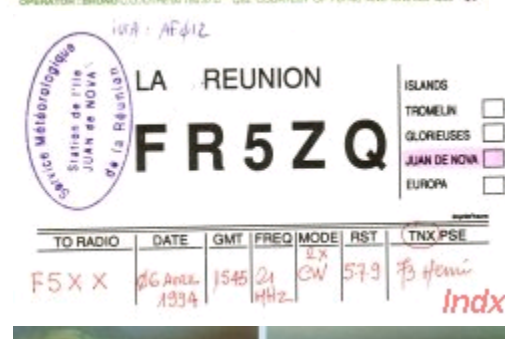
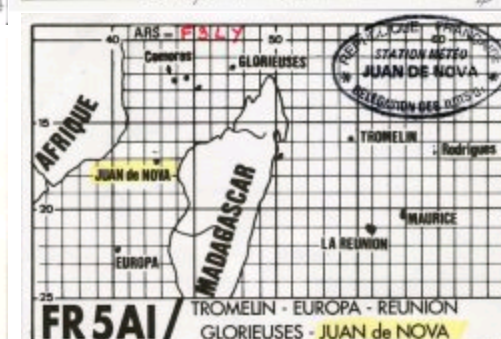
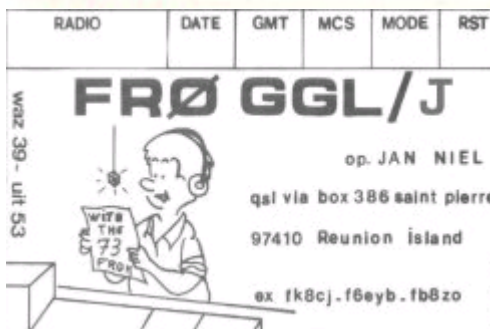
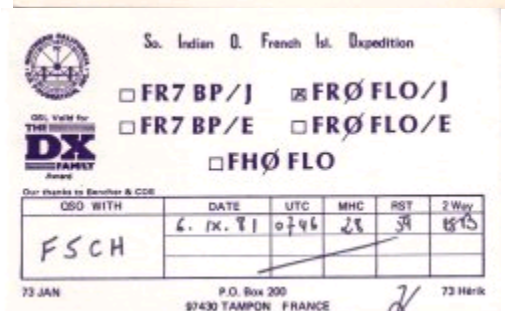
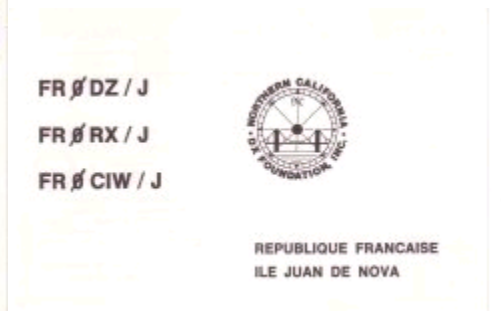
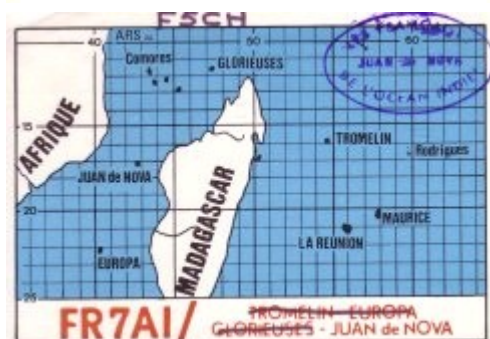
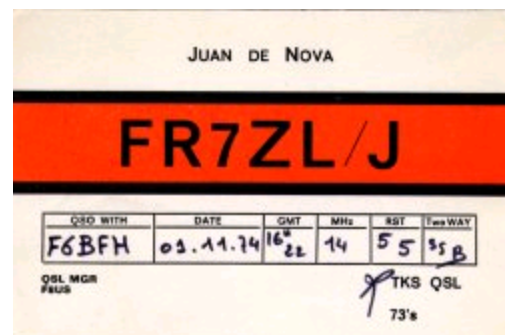
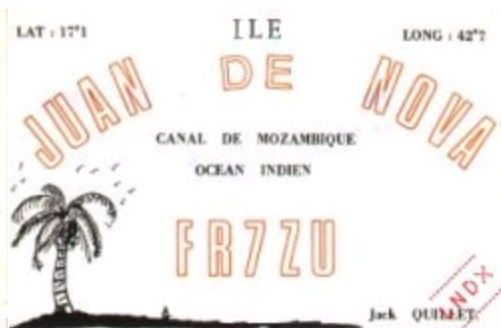
Our thanks to Stranah & CDE

QSO WITH	DATE	UTC	MHC	RST	2 Way
F9GL	31. 8. 81	0755	28	59	800
	31. 8. 81	1118	21	59	800

73 JAN P.O. Box 200 97430 TAMPON FRANCE 73 H&K



FR/J Juan De Nova Island QSLs



So here we are at the end of the top ten! It was a long journey and hopefully one that everyone enjoyed. Going through all the nostalgia does leave a longing for days gone by and possibly a little sorrow in the memories of the heyday of DXing. Still there are many years ahead that will be filled with new adventures and hopefully activity from these rare places that conjure up images of swaying palm trees and tropical drinks. With all the cruise lines losing their shirts there may be an opportunity in arranging a cruise through the Indian Ocean stopping off at each one of the rare entities for a few days each. Maybe even looping through the region dropping off groups and returning to pick them up a few weeks later. Anybody up for the adventure? Of course a navy escort would be necessary to ward off the pirates.

As mentioned earlier the new top ten list is out and we will be diving into the three entities that were not on last years list. Hopefully this will be done in short order.

As you sit around at Visalia visiting with friends and foreign DXers perhaps a subject from one of these articles will come up. If any information or recollection that would be considered worth printing should arise please forward it along and we will make an article out of it. We should put it in writing before it too is lost forever!

Until next month... See you at Visalia!



2010 TOP 10 NEEDED COUNTRIES NORTH AMERICA WEST COAST		
1	FT5G	GLORIOSO
2	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS
3	P5	NORTH KOREA
4	7O	YEMEN
5	FT5T	TROMELIN
6	VK0/H	HEARD ISLAND
7	KP1	NAVASSA
8	T5	SOMALIA
9	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM
10	FT5/JE	JUAN DE NOVA/EUROPA



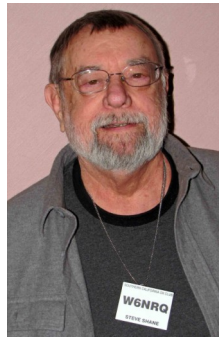
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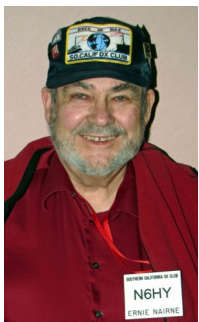
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